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Chapter 93

Bug

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SENTE, 9-8 KYOU
SFX: SUH...
スッ!!
IS HE GOING FOR A STATIC HISHA ANAGUMA?!
SOUYA MEIJIN BROUGHT UP HIS KYOU?!

OKAY THEN, HOW WILL DOBASHI 9-DAN RESPOND?
—SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I SUPPOSE?
—HE'S RESPONDING BY SAYING 'WELL, THEN WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO IF I RESPOND WITH STATIC HI-ANA THAT I BARELY EVER DO?'
WELL SEEING AS DOBASHI-KUN PLUNGED IN WITH 'CENTRAL HISHA' WHICH HE'S NEVER DONE BEFORE,
HMM...
ズズー!!
WHAT? SOUYA MEIJIN DOING STATIC HISHA ANAGUMA?
I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT BEFORE!

SFX: SUH
DID HE EXPECT THIS REPONSE?
HE'S GOING TO TRY TO PUT A SOLID FORMATION TOGETHER?
FROM 'CENTRAL HISHA' TO 'ISHIDA STYLE'...?
3-4 HISHA...
OOH!!
3-4 HISHA!!
'JUST HOW WIDE HAS HE SPREAD AND HOW DEEP HAS HE DOVE?
—SHEESH.
SO EVEN SOUYA'S STATIC HISHA ANAGUMA WAS 'WITHIN HIS HYPOTHESES'...?
This isn't normal ...!!
THIS IS GONNA BE A LONG MATCH.

T/N: MIZUTAKI IS A KIND OF HOT POT DISH IN WHICH FISH OR OTHER KINDS OF MEAT AND VEGETABLES ARE COOKED IN UNSEASONED FISH BROTH AND DIPPED IN TANGY PONZU SAUCE.
The first day of the Meijin Championship's 2nd game ended
with Souya Meijin making the sealed move.
— And then
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?
TOMORROW NIGHT'S DINNER WILL END UP BEING SAND-WICHES HERE IN THE WAITING ROOM, DOESN'T IT.....?
IF IT GETS REALLY PRO-LONGED, THEN THAT MEANS
HUH
HOLD ON, THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT?!
I was all ready to have mizutaki for dinner!
Did we come all the way to Fukuoka for that?!!
HAaaa
KUH ...
IT'S GONNA BE LONG...?
— THAT MEANS
Right!
We can't take our eyes off until it's done!!
From the start of the game
13 hours had passed.
Day 2.
Early evening.
OR IS HE JUST MALFUNC-TIONING?
DID HIS BATTERIES GO DEAD?
WHAT'S WITH THE DOBASHI ROBOT?
HE'S STOCK STILL.
HE'S NOT MOVING AT ALL, IS HE?
D-DOBASHI 9-DAN...

A long think...
—But
why is he expending so much of his time here?
There shouldn't be anything here but the natural 6-1 Gin.
Or is he trying to get a thorough read
of how the game will develop after this?

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HE'S NOT GOING THE THE BATH-ROOM?
BUT HE'S CARRYING SO--ME-THING.
AH,
HE GOT UP FROM HIS SEAT.
WHAT?
HM?
WHAT'S SOUYA-SAN DOING?
SFX: SHUH...
ZZZ
DDD

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SFX: PASHIH
パシッ
SOUYA-SAN CAME BACK...
— AH, LOOKS LIKE
SFX: BUH BUH... (MUMBLING)

Until the endgame, the situation kept swinging back and forth.
After they had both used up their available time and were down to 1-minute shogi,
with 145 moves, the curtain came to a close on the 2nd game of the Meijin Championship
with Souya Meijin's victory.

deep into the night as the 2nd day ended.
quietly continued the post-mortem that took place after
And

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
BUT AROUND 3 O'CLOCK, SOUYA-SAN LEFT HIS SEAT, RIGHT?
I COULDN'T GET A GOOD LOOK AT IT THROUGH THE MONI-TOR,
HM?
— OH YEAH, ANIJA.
WHEEEW. THAT GAME WAS LONG,
BUT SO WAS THE POST-MORTEM.
MATSUNAGA-SAN WAS CRYING (HEHE).
HE YELLED 'MIZUTAKI!!! FRIED PORK LEEEG!' THROUGH TEARS.

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THERE WAS A BUG.

A LITTLE BUG...
SOUYA WAS CONCERNED ABOUT IT, BELIEVE IT OR NOT.
IT WAS PRETTY SURPRISING,
—BUT IT KINDA MADE ME HAPPY TO SEE.
It was so humane!!

WHEN HE WAKES UP IN THE MORNING. HE'LL EAT THE 3 ONIGIRI HE ORDERED TO HIS ROOM THE PREVIOUS NIGHT
—THEN
—IT'S LIKE CLOCKWORK!!
AND THEN DO SOME MATING-SHOGI PUZZLES TO WARM HIS MIND UP
I KNOW!! THERE MUST BE A ROBOT INSIDE THAT HUMAN EXTERIOR OF HIS, RIGHT?!
No, actually
Souya didn't care about the bug.
Once he'd sunk that deep, everything else was blocked out.
Dobashi-san's concentration was tremendous.

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Souya noticed that little bug

and removed it

for Dobashi-san.

— and even the player himself didn't realize

that was causing problems with his thought process.

But at the edge of his vision there was something that everyone else

— No,

for their match. For both of them.

And the fact that I was disgracefully jealous of that,

I will take to my grave as a secret.

1PM.

WE HAVE SOME TIME, SO MAYBE WE CAN GO GET SOME SOUVENIRS AT THE AIRPORT.

ANIJA,

WHAT TIME IS THE PLANE TOMORROW?

Chapter 93 END

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Senzaki Manabu's Lion Shogi Column
AN ARTICLE BY SENZAKI MANABU 4

REGARDING SUPERSTITION

When you think of a gambler, you picture someone on edge in western clothing, a wrinkled brow, and..... of course, superstition.

This sort of stereotypical shogi player, for the most, part does not exist. They spend most of their days in t-shirts and jeans, don't have that sort of scary appearance, and yes, I believe there are very few that are superstitious. I say 'I believe' because, naturally, I don't talk about it much with other people. Much less people in the industry.

But well, no matter how you think about it, I can say that very few shogi players pay much attention to superstition, seeing as shogi is such a logical game. So most people that get into shogi have a scientific mindset. I would say that is the biggest reason.

Again, these are all my personal thoughts on the matter, but there's also the fact that we don't get injured. Whereas sports athletes are surprisingly very superstitious. It's thought that because in sports, both losing and getting injured are really awful situations. No matter how cautious you are, injury has a certain element of luck to it. This is what makes one entreaty to a deity.

I've thought of myself as a person completely free of superstition. However, once on the morning of a match, right when I was trying to tie my necktie, an awful feeling ran through my body. I'd lost the last match I wore that necktie in. Mmm, what should I do?

After a little thinking, I decided. Like hell I was going to let some stupid superstition beat me! I'm gonna win with this necktie!

And I lost. And in my next match, I wore a different necktie. Uugh, I lost to the superstition. How mortifying.

Thinking back on it now, I was an the bottom of a slump at the time. I think I'd had around a 7-game losing streak at the time. Because of what was going on at the time, I was feeling weak-hearted, and so I came up with the idea that it was the necktie's fault I'd lost.

When things are going well, you don't pay any attentions to omens. But during times of adversity, you get concerned about dull things.

while looking at the river -- and I cross over all sorts of bridges
but on the days of matches I walk to the JR station
There would only be one line to Sendagaya if I went by subway,
I space out and my mind goes blank.
When I see places that lots of water has ended up

◀ 'On match days, I look at the river as I walk to the JR station.' Perhaps this is a superstition of Kiriyama's.

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3月のライオン

March comes in like a lion
Chica Umino

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3-GATSU NO LION VOLUME 9

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